

**Mobile Imaging****BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION****Field of the Invention**

- 5 The present invention relates to imaging and in particular to mobile imaging in a portable radio communication device.

Description of the Prior Art

- 10 Use of personal computers, in particular laptops, and personal communication devices, such as mobile phones is now commonplace. In connection with such devices, a growing technology is that of digital imaging, and laptops and mobile phones are currently emerging with imaging devices such as cameras and scanners so as to support services such as video telephony and multimedia applications. It is envisaged that video cameras could be
- 15 connected up with laptops and mobile phones as either integral parts thereof, thus making up part of the electronic apparatus as a whole, or as add-on peripheral devices provided in the form of detachably connectable modular accessories.
- 20 Furthermore, it has been noted that rather than arrange the video camera in a fixed relationship with the main device (for example laptop/mobile phone), it would be beneficial if the camera were able to adopt a range of positions in relation to the main device. That is, it would significantly increase the usefulness of the camera unit, and thus the apparatus as a whole, if while
- 25 continuing to be electronically connected to the laptop/mobile phone the camera unit was able to be moved about independently of the laptop. In particular, with a laptop/mobile phone equipped with a camera, there are two characteristic modes of operation, 1. video conferencing, that is when the camera is facing the user, and 2. scenic video/photography, that is when the
- 30 camera is facing away from the user. Thus, there is a need for there to be a degree of relative movement between the camera and the main device.

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